

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 OFA-01 L-01

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4364

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 27135

LIMDIS

DEPT PASS WHITEHOUSE FOR GENERAL SCOWCROFT FROM
EUGENE ROSTOW

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, IC, GW

SUBJECT: FRG-ICELANDIC FISHING NEGOTIATIONS

REF: PARIS 27115

1. IN CORRIDOR CONVERSATIONS DURING ATLANTIC TREATY
ASSOCIATION MEETINGS YESTERDAY, DR. KARL MOMMER
GERMAN VICE-PRESIDENT WHO HAS BEEN ACTIVELY PURSUING
PROBLEM IN BONN, REPORTED "THAT THE FISHES ARE
SWIMMING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION" AND THAT A GERMAN
CONCESSION THROUGH WAIVER OF RIGHTS UNDER PROTOCOL
TO BLOCK ICELAND PARTICIPATION IN GENERAL EFTA
ARRANGEMENTS WITH COMMUNITY WAS "BY NO MEANS
IMPOSSIBLE...

2. HEIMIR HANNESON, ICELANDIC DELEGATE WHO WAS KEY
FIGURE IN BRITISH ICELANDIC SETTLEMENT INITIATED
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AT A.T.A. MEETING IN BRUSSELS IN 1973, REPORTS THAT

HE HAS AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE "VERY REPEAT VERY GENEROUS SUBSTANTIVE SETTLEMENT IMMEDIATELY" IF GERMANS CAN OBTAIN WAIVER OF COMMUNITY PROTOCOL BAN ON ICELANDIC ADHERENCE, WHICH HANNESON REGARDS AS CRITICAL POLITICAL ISSUE AND SYMBOL FROM ICELANDIC POINT OF VIEW. HANNESON WILL NEGOTIATE HERE OR IN BONN AS GERMANS PREFER. ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER OF ICELAND PREPARED TO COMPLETE PROCESS FORMALLY ON OCTOBER 28TH, BY GOING TO BONN OR BRUSSELS, IF DESIRED.

3. MY OWN PRIOR EXPERIENCE WITH HANNESON, ESPECIALLY HIS CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN 1973 COD WAR NEGOTIATIONS, GIVES ME CONFIDENCE THAT HE CAN AND WILL DELIVER ON HIS ASSURANCES. MY IMPRESSION IS THAT FOR DOMESTIC POLITICAL REASONS, ICELAND ANXIOUS FOR QUICK SETTLEMENT, FOR WHICH THEY ARE PREPARED TO PAY A GOOD PRICE.

4. I SHALL MEET WITH MOMMER AND HANNESON TODAY. MEANWHILE, PLEASE INFORM GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER HIMSELF, AND, IF YOU AGREE, TRY TO PERSUADE THEM TO MEET PROTOCOL CONDITION PROMPTLY IN ORDER TO FACILITATE SETTLEMENT.
RUSH

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